

09.03.2023



Dear Parents and Carers,

At Rivington, we use Letters and Sounds with supplementary material from Acti-phones to deliver our phonics programme. This has worked really successfully but in order to further improve our provision and to unify teaching approaches across all year groups, we are now looking to implement a programme from the department for Education's accredited list.

After several months of 'really' considering which accredited **Systematic Synthetic Phonics** (SSP) teaching programme would be best for our children at Rivington, we have finally chosen '**Monster Phonics**'. After seeking a wealth of external advice, we really do think that this is the programme that best fits our children, their needs and the resources available here at Rivington. During the text term, we are undertaking whole-staff training and preparation in order that we can have a successful implementation in September 2023. The School and Governors, would like to personally thank the Friends of Rivington Primary School - and all parents who have contributed in any small way to fundraising - for the financial support they have provided School in order that we can make this decision.

We thought that you may want to have an 'early peek' at Monster Phonics so I have attached an information booklet for you to look at. On this letter, I have also included examples of the materials that come with the programme. I hope you agree with us that the programme is clearly child-centred, memorable; easy to teach and engaging. By choosing an accredited programme, we are also securing the fidelity of all staff to it - across all year groups - as stated in the ['Choosing a Phonic Teaching Programme'](#) from the DfE:

'Ofsted does not have a preferred programme or approach. What's important is that schools take an approach that is rigorous, systematic, used with fidelity (any resources used should exactly match the Grapheme Phoneme Correspondence (GPC) progression of their chosen SSP approach), and achieves strong results for all pupils, including the most disadvantaged. Please refer to [this blog](#) for more information.

Validation status indicates that a programme has been self-assessed by its publisher and judged by a small panel with relevant expertise and that both consider it to meet all of the [Department for Education \(DfE\) criteria](#) for an effective systematic synthetic phonics programme.

A complete systematic synthetic phonics (SSP) programme is one that provides:

- all that is essential to teach SSP to children in reception and key stage 1 years of mainstream primary schools
- sufficient support for children in reception and key stage 1 to become fluent readers
- a structured route for most children to meet or exceed the expected standard in the year one phonics screening check'
- all national curriculum expectations for word reading through decoding by the end of key stage 1

Below is a link to a free parental webinar held by Monster Phonics on **Thursday 16th March at 8:00pm-8:30pm** – this will help develop your understanding of the programme and you can also listen to it from the comfort of your home! Please don't worry if you cannot make this date as the company will re-run the webinar later in the year and School will be holding Phonics and Reading workshops for all parents and carers too. **To book on the free webinar, click below:**

<https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/parent-webinar-phonics-explained-how-to-help-your-child-with-phonics-tickets-547789973557?aff=ebdsoporgprofile>

'Phonics gives children the key to unlocking this alphabetic code for their reading and spelling. This is why teaching phonics for reading and spelling is a cornerstone of the programmes of study for English in the national curriculum.' The Early Reading Framework, DfE 2022 p.42.

We are all really looking forward to using this wonderful programme with our children!

Best wishes,

Sarah Annette

Headteacher



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Headteacher: Mrs S E
Annette BA (QTS)

'Living life to its fullest; making a difference along the way'

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Meet the Monsters

Long A sound



Long E sound



Long I sound



Long O sound



Long U sound



Long oo sound



Long ow sound



Silent Letters that have no sound



Tricky Letters that make a difference



Black Cats – phonetic letters

